

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

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R 141511Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2479

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: PRESIDENT SPEAKS ON AFM-PARTIES ACCORD ON CONSTITUTION

REF: FBIS LONDON 111652Z

SUMMARY: IN SIGNING CEREMONY APRIL 11, PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES ATTEMPTED TO JUSTIFY NEED FOR AFM-PARTIES PRE-ELECTORAL AGREEMENT ON FUNDAMENTALS OF CONSTITUTION. HE ALSO TOOK SWIPE AT FAR LEFT ABUSE OF FREEDOM, AND INVITED NON-SIGNATORS OF AGREEMENT TO ADHERE LATER. PRESIDENT, DIFFERING SLIGHTLY FROM VIEW OF PRIME MINISTER AND OTHERS ON THE SUBJECT OF IMPORTANCE OF ELECTIONS, SAID THEY WILL HAVE "INCALCULABLE DIDACTIC AND ASSESSING IMPACT" FOR AFM. END SUMMARY.

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1. PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES MADE A BRIEF SPEECH (FULL TEXT CARRIED FBIS REFTEL) AT APRIL 11 SIGNING OF CONSTITUTIONAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN AFM AND SIX OF THE 12 LEGALIZED POLITICAL PARTIES. THE PRESIDENT ADMITTED THAT THERE WERE DISPUTES AND DIFFERENCES OVER THE PLATFORM. HOWEVER, HE STATED THAT THE PLATFORM IS NECESSARY TO GUARANTEE THE "STABILIZING PRESENCE" OF THE AFM FOR FROM 3-5 YEARS, WHICH HE NOTED IS NOT LONG COMPARED WITH OTHER PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY EXPERIENCES. THE BASIC PURPOSE OF THE PLATFORM IS TO GUARANTEE THAT THE SITUATION REMAINS UNDER CONTROL WHILE THE PEOPLE BECOME SUFFICIENTLY ENLIGHTENED TO REJECT REACTIONARY POLITICAL PARTIES OF THE RIGHT AND LEFT.

2. THE PRESIDENT CLAIMED THAT THE PARAMETERS OF THE PLATFORM JUST SIGNED WOULD IN ANY EVENT HAVE EMANATED SPONTANEOUSLY FROM THE ELECTED ASSEMBLY AND WOULD HAVE BEEN SUPPORTED BY THE OVERWHELMINGLY MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE. ALTHOUGH RECOGNIZING THAT THE SIGNING RESTRICTS THE CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS OF THE ASSEMBLY, THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT THIS IS COUNTERBLANCED BY THE LARGE MEASURE OF SECURITY GUARANTEED TO THE LESS FAVORED CLASSES.

3. COSTA GOMES FINISHED WITH AN APPEAL TO THE FAR LEFT-- "TURBULENT MINORITIES"--TO DESIST FROM THEIR PSEUDO-REVOLUTIONARY DEMONSTRATIONS OF ANARCHY, VERBAL OPPORTUNISM, AND ILLEGITIMATE ABUSE OF FREEDOM. HE PROMISED AFM'S FIRM PLEDGE TO GUARANTEE ELECTORAL ORDER. (COMMENT: THE SAME DAY, THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL PROHIBITED THE FAR-LEFT MARXIST-LENINIST PARTY FEC-ML FROM USING ITS ALLOTTED TV-RADIO TIME FOR FIVE DAYS- UNTIL APRIL 16--BECAUSE OF ITS PROVOCATIVE ATTACKS ON AFM, ITS CALLS FOR MILITARY INDISCIPLINE, AND ITS SERIOUS LACK OF RESPONSIBILITY TOWARDS THE NATION. THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL ALSO BEGAN CENSORING UDP BROADCASTS, AND PROHIBITED THE AIRING OF ONE OF ITS TEN-MINUTE TV SLOTS APRIL 12.)

4. THE PRESIDENT CONCLUDED BY INVITING THOSE PARTIES WHICH DID NOT SIGN THE PLATFORM TO DO SO ANY TIME.

5. COMMENT: THE PLATFORM ITSELF, THE PCP, THE MDP, AND THE PRIME MINISTER HAVE STATED CLEARLY THAT THE ONLY PURPOSE OF THE ELECTIONS IS TO CHOOSE PERSONS TO WRITE THE CONSTITUTION. A CONTRARY VIEW IS THAT THE ELECTIONS WILL SHOW THE POLICY MAKERS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHICH WAY AND AT WHAT SPEED THE REVOLUTION SHOULD GO. THE PRESIDENT CAME DOWN ABOUT MIDWAY BETWEEN THESE TWO EXTREMES IN HIS SPEECH. WHILE NOTING THAT THE ELECTIONS FOR AFM WILL HAVE AN INCALCULABLE DIDACTIC AND ASSESSING IMPACT, HE POINTED OUT THAT THE NATION HAS INHERITED POLITICAL IGNORANCE, AND THAT 3-5 YEARS ARE NEEDED TO ERASE THE LEGACY OF POLITICAL IGNORANCE AND REJECT EXTREMISMS.

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